

With the Authors' Compliments.

THINGOE RURAL
DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1895,

BY

CHARLES SCOTT KILNER,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

*Prepared in accordance with instructions received
from the Local Government Board.*

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1896.



THINGOE RURAL DISTRICT.

To the Thingoe Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to lay before you my Eighteenth Annual Report on the Sanitary Condition of the Thingoe Rural District for the year 1895.

The population of the Thingoe Rural District in 1891, Population. when the last Census was taken, was 15,743. I propose to retain this number as the basis on which to frame the following statistics, as for all practical purposes I believe it may be assumed to be correct.

In the Thingoe District during the year 1895, there were Births. registered 395 births, which is equivalent to a birth-rate of 25.09 per 1000 of the population.

In the year 1894 there were 428 births, giving a birth-rate of 26.55 per 1000.

The birth-rate in England and Wales in 1895 was 30.3 per 1000.

In the Thingoe District during the year 1895 there were Deaths. 217 deaths, of which 40 were under one year of age, 81 between one and sixty-five years of age, and 96 above sixty-five years of age.

The death-rate for the year was 13.78 per 1000 of the population.

In the year 1894 there were 216 deaths, which was equivalent to a death-rate of 13.72 per 1000.

The death-rate in England and Wales in 1895 was 18.7 per 1000.

In the Thingoe District during the year 1895 there were Excess of Births over Deaths. 178 more births than there were deaths.

First quarter—Number of deaths	65.	Death-rate	16.48	Deaths in each Quarter.
Second „ „ „	73.	„	18.52	
Third „ „ „	41.	„	10.40	
Fourth „ „ „	38.	„	9.64	

Proportion of deaths under one year of age to 1000 Infant Mortality births :—

In the Thingoe District in 1895 it was 101.26

 1894 " 91.12

In England and Wales in 1895 " 161.0

Mortality above 60 years of age. Mortality per 1000 living above sixty years of age (the estimated number living being 965) :—

In the Thingoe District in 1895 it was 106.73

1894 " 95.33

In England and Wales in 1895 " 73.5

Zymotic Diseases In the Thingoe District during the year 1895 there were 13 deaths referred to the seven principal Zymotic diseases, viz., Scarlet Fever 2, Diphtheria 2, Membranous Croup 1, Measles 3, Whooping Cough 4, and Diarrhoea 1.

This is equivalent to a Zymotic death-rate of 0.83 per 1000.

The Zymotic death-rate in 1894 was 1.27 per 1000.

In England and Wales in 1895, the Zymotic death-rate was 2.14 per 1000.

Scarlet Fever.

During the past year cases of Scarlet Fever have occurred in the following parishes, viz., Barrow, Barton, Hargrave, Hengrave, Horringer, Pakenham and Whepstead. The cases were mostly of a mild type, and only two deaths were registered due to this cause. In two or three parishes the disease appears to have been lurking about for some time, whilst in others it was directly traceable to importation from a distance. In one case I found two boys engaged in milking cows whilst they were desquamating freely after Scarlet Fever, their parents having been ignorant of the nature of the complaint from which they had been suffering. In another case the sale of milk had to be prohibited. The commencement of an outbreak at Barton was discovered under the following circumstances :—The Inspector of Nuisances had occasion to visit a house in that parish, and finding it in a very dirty state, and noticing that the children looked ill and uncared for, he drew the attention of the Inspector of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children to the case, who forthwith visited the house, but, previous to reporting the matter to the head office, he had the children examined by a Medical Man, when they were found to be suffering from Scarlet Fever. These children had been running about and attending School, and, in consequence, three other families were subsequently attacked with Fever. Legal proceedings would have been taken in this case, but for the fact that the parents pleaded ignorance of the nature of the disease, and that the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children were prosecuting them for cruelty and neglect. During the year it was deemed necessary to close the schools at Barton and Whepstead, and to prohibit the children residing in a certain part of Pakenham from attending School. In some cases where suspicion has existed that children may have been

attending School whilst in an infectious state I have visited the Schools, and examined individually all the children present. The usual precautions for preventing the disease from spreading have also been taken, similar to those which have been adopted in former years, viz., 1st, free distribution of disinfectants; 2nd, subsequent disinfection of the various infected houses; 3rd, the distribution of printed circulars, stating as simply as possible the precautions recommended to be taken, and the penalties a person is liable to for infringing the Acts of Parliament relating to Infectious Diseases. According to Section 5 of the Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890, a house has to be disinfected "to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer of Health." I may mention that in future, with certain exceptions, I shall not consider a house has been disinfected to my satisfaction, unless it has been carried out by a competent person, such as the Inspector of Nuisances, who has been duly authorised by the Thingoe Rural District Council to enter any premises in the district for this purpose.

During the past year nine cases of Diphtheria and one of ^{Diphtheria.} membranous croup occurred in the following parishes, viz., Barrow, Flempton, Fornham All Saints, Hengrave, Rushbrooke, Pakenham, Little Saxham, and Stanton, but in no case was more than one family in any parish attacked. In several of these cases certain sanitary defects were discovered, which were subsequently remedied; whilst in three instances the water was found to be impure, and steps were taken in order to procure a better supply.

The District has again been remarkably free from Typhoid ^{Typhoid Fever.} Fever, only one case having been reported during the year.

Measles was very prevalent in many parts of the District, especially during the second quarter of the year. It was not, however, of a fatal character, as only one death due to this complaint was registered. During the year the following Schools had to be closed on account of the prevalence of measles amongst the children attending them, viz., Bardwell, Chevington, Fornham St. Martin, Ixworth, Newton, Rougham, Great Whelnetham, and Little Whelnetham.

Whooping Cough was not so prevalent last year as has Whooping Cough often been the case, but four deaths were referred to this cause, viz., two at Chevington, and two at Hawstead.

The District has again been very free from Diarrhoea, only ^{Diarrhoea.} one death due to this cause having been registered.

There has been no marked epidemic of Influenza during the ^{Influenza.} past year, but I notice that no less than six deaths have been

reorded as due to this complaint, most of whieh occurred during the second quarter of the year.

Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act.

A table is appended at the end of this report showing the nature of the Infectious Diseases which have been notified during the past year under the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889, and the parishes in whieh they have oecurred.

General Health.

In my Annual Report for the year 1894 I drew attention to the exceetionally low death-rate, which was only 13.72 per 1000. Last year the death-rate was 13.78 per 1000, and the number of deaths only exceeded that of 1894 by one. It is worthy of note that during the third and fourth quarters of last year the death-rate was 10.40 and 9.64 respectively ; the latter being the lowest death-rate that has ever been reorded in any quarter during the last eighteen years.

Sanitary Inspection.

The District has been frequently and systematically inspeeted by Mr. Deeks, the Inspector of Nuisances, and myself, and as a result 310 notices have been served, for particulars of which I would refer to Inspector's report which is appended.

Water Supply.

During the past year twenty-one samples of water taken from various sourees have been analysed, and as a result twelve wells and eight ponds have been eleaned out and one well has been closed altogether. Eight wells have been deepened in order to secure a better supply of water, and twelve new wells have been sunk, viz., at Barrow 1, Bradfield St. George 1, Brookley 1, Culford 2, Fornham All Saints 1, Flempton 1, Newton 1, Rougham 2, Rushbrooke 1, and Whepstead 1.

Sewerage and Drainage.

During the past year twenty-eight new elosets have been built and forty-six have been repaired, twenty-one cesspools found to be full have been ordered to be eleaned out, fourteen new drains have been made, twenty-six others have been unblockeed, repaired, &c., and twenty-four water courses have been eleaned out.

A noticee whieh had been served on the owner of eertain premises at Chedburgh to abate a nuisance in conneetion with a eloset not having been complied with, proeceedings were taken before the Magistrates, who made an order for the nuisance to be abated with eosts.

During last Summer and Autumn complaints were again made to the Thingoe Rural District Councel of the smell arising from the Sewerage Farm at West Stow whieh reeeives the sewerage from Bury St. Edmund's. A eonjoint Committee, formed of members of the Thingoe Rural District

Council and of the Corporation of Bury St. Edmund's, met to discuss this question, and the matter is now receiving the attention of the Town Authorities.

During the past year one hundred and four houses, which Dwelling Houses were in a dilapidated condition, were repaired. Seven were better ventilated, and one house was closed under the Housing of the Working Classes Act. Three cases of over-crowding were remedied, and twenty-seven houses, two schools, and one reading-room was disinfected.

Legal proceedings had to be taken in the case of two houses at Whepstead, which were in a very dilapidated condition. The landlord having neglected to carry out the necessary repairs, the Magistrates ordered him to do the work and to pay the costs of the proceedings.

The bake-houses and slaughter-houses visited during the Factories and past year were on the whole in a fairly satisfactory condition. The drains, however, in connection with two slaughter-houses, were found to be in a defective state, and have since been remedied.

I am indebted to Robert Burrell, Esq., of Westley Hall, Meteorology. for the following table showing the rainfall for each month during the year. The total rainfall was 23.78 inches, which fell on 143 days.

January ...	2.87	inches.	August ...	4.08	inches
February ...	.23	"	September	.58	"
March ...	1.93	"	October ...	2.34	"
April ...	1.33	"	November	2.66	"
May ...	.88	"	December	1.97	"
June ...	.52	"	Total ...	23.78	
July ...	4.39	"			

In conclusion, I beg to append a table giving particulars, regarding each parish in the Thingoe Rural District, and also tables, A and B, which show the number of births and deaths, and the number of new cases of infectious diseases, which have come to my knowledge, classified according to diseases, ages, and localities.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES SCOTT KILNER,

M.B., C.M., Edin., D.P.H., Camb.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Bury St. Edmund's,

January 28th, 1896.

*TABLE (A) OF DEATHS during the year 1895, in the Thingoe Rural District ; classified according to DISEASES,
AGES, and LOCALITIES.*

NAME OF LOCALITIES.	Mortality from all causes, at subjoined Ages.										Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five Years of Age.																						
	At all Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	All other Diseases.	Injuries.	Heart Disease	Breochitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.	Diphtheria and Dysentery.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Meningo-cerebral.	Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease	Injuries.	All other Diseases.	Total.
ROUGHAM SUB-DISTRICT	68	13	8	1	3	15	28	Under 5	Under 5	2	1	1	1	1	1	9	5	1	1	6	21	29	47										
FORNHAM SUB-DISTRICT	73	14	12	3	3	8	33	5 upwards	5 upwards	2	1	1	1	1	1	7	4	2	16	32	47	26	47										
LIXWORTH SUB-DISTRICT	76	13	6	2	1	19	35	Under 5	5 upwards	1	1	2	2	2	2	10	12	3	2	14	30	57	19	57									
TOTALS ...	217	40	26	6	7	42	96	Under 5	5 upwards	2	1	3	4	1	1	18	25	10	1	17	25	51	36	51									

TABLE (B) OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1895, in the Thingoe Rural District ; classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.		Population at all Ages.	Registered Births.	Aged under five or over five.	Under 5 upwards	17	1	3
		Census, 1891.	Estimated to middle of 1895.		136			
ROUGHAM SUB-DISTRICT	... }	5129						
FORNHAM SUB-DISTRICT	... }	5337						
IXWORTH SUB-DISTRICT	... }	5277						
TOTALS	... ... ...	15743			395	Under 5 upwards	19	2
						34	7	1
								11

" Notification of Infectious Disease " has been compulsory in the District since 1889.

There is no Isolation Hospital in connection with the District.

*Report of the Inspector of Nuisances on the Sanitary Work
completed during the year 1895.*

Number of houses, premises, &c., inspected...	...	No record.
,, notices served ... ... ...	...	310

DWELLING HOUSES.

Number of dilapidated houses repaired	...	...	...	104
,, houses closed ... ... ...	...	...	...	1
,, houses better ventilated...	...	...	...	7
,, cases of over crowding remedied	...	...	...	3
,, houses disinfected ... ... ...	...	...	...	27
,, schools disinfected ... ... ...	...	...	...	2

SEWAGE AND DRAINAGE.

Number of new closets ... ... ... ...	...	28
,, closets repaired, &c. ... ... ...	...	46
,, cesspools cleaned out ... ... ...	...	21
,, new drains made ... ... ...	...	14
,, drains unblocked, &c. ... ... ...	...	26
,, water courses cleaned out ... ... ...	...	24

WATER SUPPLY.

Number of new wells sunk ... ... ... ...	...	12
,, well top coverings and pumps repaired ...	...	16
,, wells cleaned out ... ... ...	...	12
,, wells deepened ... ... ...	...	8
,, ponds supplying drinking water cleaned out ...	...	8
,, wells closed ... ... ...	...	1

MISCELLANEOUS.

Number of animals improperly kept, removed	...	...	13
,, open pools near houses filled up ...	...	...	12
,, accumulations of refuse removed ...	...	...	14
,, accumulations of blood and offal removed ...	...	...	4
,, legal proceedings ... ... ...	...	...	3

RICHARD DEEKS,

Inspector of Nuisances.

Statistics and Report of the Medical Officer of Health of the Thingoe Rural District Council, for the Year



